

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S:RGAMBLE

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P 311457Z JUL 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188798

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR CARTER

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 188798 ACTION MONROVIA INFO USUN

NEW YORK 30 JUL 76

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188798

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR,UNGA,US,LI

SUBJECT:COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT: LETTER FROM THE  
SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING LETTER  
FROM THE SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. TOLBERT,JR.  
IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT PLANNED TO SEND SIGNED ORIGINALS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: RECALLING THE  
WARM AND USEFUL TALKS WE HAD RECENTLY IN MONROVIA,  
I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR THOUGHTS ON TWO ISSUES  
OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO US, PUERTO RICO AND KOREA,  
WHICH ARE LIKELY TO COME UP IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS  
CONFIDENTIAL  
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PRIOR TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND AT THE ASSEMBLY  
ITSELF. WE APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND  
COOPERATION ON THESE ISSUES IN THE PAST, PARTICULARLY

THE CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE YOUR COUNTRY PLAYED AT THE  
NON-ALIGNED MEETING IN ALGIERS.

ON PUERTO RICO, OUR POLICY IS BASED ON COMPLETE  
ACCEPTANCE OF PUERTO RICO'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION.  
THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO APPROVED THEIR CONSTITUTION  
AND COMMONWEALTH STATUS IN 1952, AND REAFFIRMED THAT

CHOICE IN A 1967 REFERENDUM. THE UNITED NATIONS  
EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZED THE SELF-GOVERNING STATUS OF  
PUERTO RICO AND REMOVED PUERTO RICO FROM THE LIST OF  
NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES IN 1953. WE ASSURED  
THE UNITED NATIONS AT THAT TIME THAT, IF THE  
PUERTO RICAN LEGISLATURE SHOULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN  
FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE, THE  
PRESIDENT WOULD RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS THAT  
INDEPENDENCE BE GRANTED.

IN VIEW OF THIS, DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS  
BY ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OR ASSEMBLY WOULD BE  
AN UNWARRANTED INTRUSION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF  
THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO. THE UNITED STATES  
CAME INTO POSSESSION OF VARIOUS NON-SELF-GOVERNING  
TERRITORIES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY, AND  
EACH HAS BEEN ABLE TO CHOOSE THE COURSE IT WISHED  
TO FOLLOW. THE PHILIPPINES CHOSE INDEPENDENCE IN  
1947; HAWAII CHOSE STATEHOOD; AND PUERTO RICO  
CHOSE A SPECIAL COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE  
U.S. WHICH CONTINUES TO EVOLVE. SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE  
OF PUERTO RICO WISH TO CONTINUE THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH  
THE UNITED STATES, ANY DISCUSSION OF THIS RELATIONSHIP  
IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS CAN ONLY BE OFFENSIVE TO US  
AND TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT FORD MADE  
THIS POINT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IN JUNE WHEN HE  
VISITED PUERTO RICO AND SAID THAT THOSE WHO MIGHT BE  
INCLINED TO INTERVENE IN OUR FREELY DETERMINED RELATIONS  
SHOULD KNOW THAT SUCH AN ACT WOULD BE CONSIDERED  
INTERVENTION IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF PUERTO RICO  
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AND THE UNITED STATES. I AM SURE THAT YOU UNDERSTAND  
OUR STRONG FEELINGS IN THIS MATTER.

IN VIEW OF THE INFLUENCE OF LIBERIA AS A MEMBER OF THE  
NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE, YOU ARE IN A  
UNIQUE POSITION TO PREVENT EXPLOITATION OF THE QUESTION  
OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS.

WITH REGARD TO KOREA, WE DO NOT, AND WE BELIEVE MOST  
UN MEMBERS DO NOT, WISH TO SEE THE KOREAN  
ISSUE BECOME AGAIN A WASTEFUL CONTROVERSY

DIVERTING THE ENERGIES OF THE UNGA. HOWEVER, IF  
IMPORTANT GROUPS WITHIN THE UN MEMBERSHIP ACCEDE  
TO PRESSURES TO ENDORSE THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION--SUCH  
AS ABOLISHING THE ARMISTICE MACHINERY, OR ALTERING  
THE MILITARY BALANCE WHICH HAS PRESERVED PEACE FOR 23  
YEARS--IT IS ALMOST INEVITABLE THAT WE WILL BE FACED

WITH A CHALLENGE IN THE UNGA TO WHICH WE WILL BE  
OBLIGED TO RESPOND ENERGETICALLY. FOR THIS REASON,  
I BELIEVE STATESMEN WOULD DO A SERVICE TO PEACE AND  
STABILITY IN THAT AREA BY ADVOCATING A CONCILIATORY  
POSTURE BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED AND THE  
RESUMPTION OF THE DIALOGUE TO WHICH THE PARTIES  
AGREED IN 1972.

ON JULY 22 I PUBLICLY RENEWED MY PROPOSAL FOR A  
CONFERENCE OF INTERESTED PARTIES ON KOREA SUGGESTING  
THAT IT TAKE PLACE THIS FALL AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS  
BE STARTED IMMEDIATELY. I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE CAREFUL  
AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO THIS PROPOSAL AS IT  
MAY RELATE TO FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONSIDERATION  
OF THIS ISSUE. CHARGE HORAN WILL PROVIDE YOU  
WITH THE TEXT OF MY PROPOSAL.

SINCE THERE IS, WITHIN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UN,  
A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS ON THE QUESTIONS OF PUERTO RICO  
AND KOREA, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN  
PREVENTING CONTENTIOUS POSITIONS FROM EMERGING ON  
EITHER ISSUE AT COMING MEETINGS, IN THE FIRST CASE  
BY AVOIDANCE OF THE ISSUE ALTOGETHER, AND IN THE  
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SECOND BY SUPPORTING A POSITION ENUNCIATING THE GENERAL  
PRINCIPLES WHICH CAN PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR  
CONCILIATION BETWEEN THE KOREAN PARTIES.  
RESPECTFULLY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.

3. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO TREAT FOREGOING AS PRIVILEGED,  
PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY AND RECIPIENT.  
EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DISCOURAGE GOL FROM RELEASE IF  
ISSUE IS RAISED.

4. YOU SHOULD HAVE PRESIDENT'S PUERTO RICO SPEECH  
(STATE 159509) AVAILABLE IN EVENT THERE IS INTEREST  
IN SOURCE OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT TO WHICH MESSAGE  
REFERS.

KISSINGER  
UNQUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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